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an Anarchist Window Pane

By R.Lynn
16.2.81

SOLIDARITY.
Railmen, steelworkers, and seamen have pledged support for the miners along with Britain's largest union,the Transport Union, should the Miners elect to go on strike. The strike is almost certain. Joe Gormley,the Miners President will call for a strike ballot on Thursday 19th February, unless the Coal Board takes a somersault on their plans to close the pits.

The Coal Board's decision to close pits is the reward to the Miners for working efficiently and increasing productivity, so that they may well have worked themselves out of a job. Who said unemployment was created by unemploy--ment, by not pulling our weight? Why our Maggie said it.She is too remote from the point of production to know any better of course. As stated in a previous issue, she stands to be condemned, even if it's for culpable ignorance.

It seems that the Tory government under the leadership of Thatcher will be jettisoned in the same wayas the previous one under the leadership of Ted Heath. When the industrial muscle of the working class is excercised no government can cross its path. Industrially backward countries generally need the assistance of their industrial brothers abraad. However, Britain being an industrial country with all the modern means of technology and communications at its disposal, it can rely on its own initiative.

The Welsh Miners have already gone on a strike mood. Tomorrow,Tuesday 17th February, the 26,000 miners in South Wales will have spearheaded a strike. Scots Miners leader, Mick McGahey predicts that 20,000 Scottish Miners will be on strike on Monday 23rd February. Other areas are expected to do likewise. Joe Gormley, miners President, expressed some disappointment at the Welsh miners 'premature'action although he stated that the union as a whole would probably finally accept the same objective constitutionally.

Midlands NUM executive member Joe Mckie predicted that a pit stoppage would soon lead to a General Strike. He said,'People are fed up to the teeth the way things are going. They will be only too willing to help the miners in their struggle.' This writer only hopes that McKie is right,but with some qualific--ations. I only hope that a general strike would not turn out to be like the parody of a General Strike of 1926. A real general strike should be the pre--lude to the social revolutionIt should mean the working class voting with their feet ; marching into their respective places of work and establishing common ownership of all means of wealth. As the Scots economist Adam Smith once said , all wealth is created by labour applied to the raw materials of the earth. Social revolution does not mean drums and trumpets and military bands followed by tanks and big guns. It means a clear recognition of our heritage.No more politicians,civil servants of top brass, no more bankers, no tycoons; in a wordby voting with your feet , you get rid of the parisitical growth upon your backs. Putting it where it belongs in the museums of antiquity along with the spinning wheel and the bronze axe. Come what may, whwther social revolution by marching into the workplaces,,or a general strike, leaving the places of work to gain reforms, avert unemployment, or to change government policy,one thing is certain; support of the railmen,transport workers and seamen are of paramount importance for thte miners to reach a speedy and successful conclusion.

One last word on this;Governments and employers know no territorial barriers.

P.T.

Exports and imprts are governed by profits. Patriotism is for the governed; the man in the street. If profit is the keywordwith a capital'P' for the powers that be,Solidarity should be the keyword with a capital 'S' for the downtrodden such as we. Solidarity will reveal that the Iron Lady will prove to be a woman of straw. If the miners do not force a general election this writer believes that our Maggie will not only do a U-turn but perhaps take a double somersault and prove that her mental incompetencedue to megalomania has been matched with a more intelligent and competent force.

A fig for those by Law protected
Liberty's a glorious feast
Courts for cowards were erected
Churches built to please the priest.
ROBERT BURNS

Prisons are built with stones of Law
And brothels with bricks of religion
WILLIAM BLAKE

There is no greater force in the world
Than an idea whose time has come
VICTOR HUGO

"PUT OUT MORE FLAGS"

On 29th July of this year, Prince Charles will be getting married to Lady Diana. Apparently, some more sophisticated name than Princess Diana is being sought after.Three probable names have been mentioned.Perhaps the bookies will give odds on it. Anyway, on the 29th in all parts of the country,drawers and cupboards will be searched for the colours. "Where's the rosettes?What's this? Pawn Tickets! Sling them aside, get the colours.Where's the flags? Look under the bed."

Then the pageantry, the festoons, flowers,flags, streamers, and of course, the hysterical crowds. We must have those, otherwise thepageantry would be superfluous. But the commercial side of things will be well present. There will be the cups and saucers, plates and plaques,trays and tea towels, you name it and you're likely to get it. There may even be something special for the unemployed. Already there's a replica of Diana's engagement ring available. Put out more flags for what? There's another side to "our Royal Family".One revealed from beyond the grave. They say that dead men can leave no tales, but they can leave diaries behind for examination.

The former Labour minister, Richard Crossman,left some interesting revelations in his diaries. They reveal that in 1951, the Queen at that time,now the QueenMother,used to make cabinet ministers march past the Royal Family goosestep style. He added that all the male guests were made to carry shovels and pokers on their shoulders while they paraded past the King,Queen, and Princess Elizabeth ,now the present Queen, and Princess Margaret.The royal group found it exquisite fun seeing Sir Stafford Cripps,the austere Labour Chancellor, doing eyes right.

Crossman said that he was told that Sir Stafford suffered the full humiliation which royaltyseemed to extract from its commoner guests.

If you happen to be one in the massive crowd when royalty passes in the royal coach, disregard those around you; look very carefully to observewhether those smiles seem sympathetic and pleasingor false or even utterly sardonic. Yes, put out more flags; the Red and Black flags. Black until the new society of freedom, fraternity and equality is born, and Red when it is born. Reshape your thinking and help to be the midwife.

UNBROTHERLY BROTHERS...

On Saturday,4th April, when the staff of the Trade Union Club at Maryhill arrived to start work, they were told that some of them were sacked. Reason? Being drunk? no! For some other misconduct or misdemeanor?. No! They were told they were redundant as there was to be a cut in staff. Just like that; sack on the spot without prior notification. In any factory, mill, or mine yard or depot, warehouse or even small workshop shop stewards have negotiations with their employers; negotiations which are often quite protracted to get the best possible deal for their workforce. Sometimes redundancies are vigor--ously resisted. It would seem that the above mentioned union establishment jettison their professed principles when it suits the occasion. Shop stewards in particular and union members in general who do not take up the cudgels in this matter stand to be designated as humbugs. Have they forgotten about the boycott?

What encouragement to join a union! No wonder it is often said that a union card nowadays is merely a licence to work. It is to be hoped this incident will not make those who have been sacked forget about the principles of unionism, but create a more discerning eye over so-called leaders.

MCKINNONS BAR: A RABBIT BETWEEN TWO WORKERS (continued from previous issue)

Hello, Maisie. A pint, Andy? Yes ,please.I believe Eck and Tommy finished up on Sunday Night.Yes, a new lad has started on a full-time basis, Ronnie Milne, he is having a break just now.I know Ronnie. I don't remember him saying he was starting. Of course, maybe he didn't say, or perhaps I was bevvied the last time I was talking to him. Of course, Tommy being married now, maybe the job no longer suited him. For Eck, maybe the situation was getting him a bit tired. You know how he likes chasing a bit of skirt...Anyway, I hope that both of them are fortunate enoughtto find some way of keepng the wolf from the door. It's getting worse. With the unemployment situation, on the steady increase everybody's feeling the pinch. I know, Andy, fortunately we have that telly. Otherwise it could be such a long night in here at times.I know its no consol--ation, Maisie, but most pubs are quiet during the week.

Hello, Ronnie. Hello, Andy. I think your eyes will be glued to the goggle box tonight unless a few live wires come in. I guess so. There's one now, Andy. Hello, Larry. Hello, what have you guys being saying about me? Nothing, we were just saying how quiet things are, but perhaps a few live wires might come in and Ronnie has just said there's one now. I wish he meant it, and I wish it were true...Ilost a few quid on the horses today. I'm just after getting a hand out until friday. What do you want? I'll get it, Larry.Two pints, Ronnie. Did you attend the funeral, Andy, or did you just go to the chapel. I went to the chapel and went to the graveside also the next day after mass. Big Mick's wife asked me to do so. I wouldn't dream of disappointing her. Don't you ever think of the hereafter, Andy? There's many people of great intellect do so. Take the Jesuits, for example; they are very educated people and they accept the hereafter. They are brainy people; much more brainier than you or I. You must accept that. Must I? I confess nothing of the sort. Perhaps they may have a better acedemic education than you or I, but as far as everyday life is concerned they may not know the time of day.Larry; they want to believe in the hereafter because it's associated with the God idea. They are entitled to believe in god for the simple reason that they do no work, and so whatever they get must seem like manna from heaven.No matter how ardent a miner may pray for his 'biscuits and cheese' he has to go down to the bowels of the earth the next morning to earn his corn. There's a great difference in psychology, Larry.Depending on how one earns his or her living, the ideas which they adhere to is much influenced by this. I agree, Andy, to a certain extent, but these Jesuits have made a profound study of philosophy. Philosophy! It was well said when it was said, that the Philosophers have merely interpre--tated the world; the point is to change it.And change it we must if we regard

as unsavoury.To hell with any philosophy that suggests what is reality is rational. For this may condemn us to an eternal slavery just like the sins of our forefathers being handed down to us, so to speak. Nothing is eternal. Everything is subject to change, even your lifestyle. A couple may get married today, taking the conventional vows concerning such marriage. Next year the vows may be torn asunder, and the Divorce Court referred to. Circumstances change continually; some slower than others, so slow that they are harly apparent. Societies change, just as individuals do. This is understandable since individuals are the units of society. In some primitive societies when the means of production was comparitively low, some children were killed at birth.In our time such practices would be classified as murder. Then it was considered moral because it was socially necessary in the interests of the already existing tribe and children. This was the custom. It was a code of morality adhered to without compulsion. However with changed economic circumstances; with the rise of agriculture creating greater means of production and consumption this practice of infanticide was no longer considered socially necessary, and therefore no longer considered moral. But this ethical change was obviously not the work of any philosophers, nor even the work of your 'god'. If it had been so, why wait so long to give them enlightenment, condemning so many to hell before the advent of this ethical transformation. Your Jesuits weren't even around,Larry, to give them the benefits of their wisdom. This change in ethical conceptions was the result in a change of the evolutionary process. Your 'god' cannot escape from this either. Instead of God creating man in his own image, as the theologians suggest,I say man created God. What do you mean Andy? Well, Larry, as I tried to convey, man's code of morality changed with changing conditions. His idea of God also changed in the evolutionary process. As I'm sure you'll know, man worshipped the sun,the rain, and feared the storm, thunder and lightning, ... because he did not understand them. He attributed supernatural causes to them because of his lack of understanding. But with the advance of science men began to realise the causes of these forces and in understanding them their mysterious force died a natural death. No longer does man bow the knee before them. Yes, Andy, that's true, but he still believes in 'God', he believes in one god because he accepts that there must be something that created the Universe. I know, Larry, but that is still because of the same reasons as to why he believed that the forces of nature were 'gods'. Ignorance, Larry, just sheer ignorance.Oh for Christ's sake, Andy, you'll be telling us next that the whole world's crazy apart from a handful of you atheists. You took the words right out of my mouth, Larry. The world is an insane asylum, but it takes up such a broad space that most of us hardly notice it. Last orders now, please. What do you want ,Andy. A small one, please,Larry,,I couldn't put down another pint. A whisky and a strong ale, will you, Ronnie.Well here's the best, Larry. I'm off now. Hope to see you Friday, for that means we'll still be living.

(to be continued)

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